MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): With reference to part (*c*), may I know whether the strength has been on the increase or on the decline?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): It has been varying from year to year.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether, from the year 1109 onwards, the number has been on the increase or decline?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): This cannot be stated definitely. The average strength of the III Form during the last two or three years is 30.

Forest Reserves in Nedumangad Taluk.

22. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many times the Conservator of Forests has inspected the Reserve Forests in Nedumangad taluk from 1103 to 1110 M. E.;

(*b*) whether the Government are aware of the illicit felling of trees from Chekonam Reserve in Nedumangad taluk

(*c*) what action the Conservator has taken regarding it; and

(*d*) how many trees were removed by the Conservator of Forests in his construction of an anicut inside the Reserve Forest?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The reserves in Nedumangad taluk were inspected as often as possible and it is not possible to say definitely the number of times they were inspected.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) He has punished the delinquent subordinates of the department who failed in their duty to protect the reserves

(*d*) No trees were removed.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from the Government whether the Conservator of Forests goes on his inspection tours as a result of a set programme?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes; he has got a programme for his tours.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know from Government whether for his inspection tours he draws T. A.?

MR. T. C THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Of course, he does.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Then may I know from the Government why it is said in the answer that it is not possible to say definitely the number of times he has inspected the reserves in the Nedumangad taluk?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): It is quite possible to collect the information but it is a very laborious task.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether Government has given a reply like this simply because the Conservator was not conducting the inspection tour or was irregular in his inspection?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Not at all.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) May I know from the Government whether they are aware that the Conservator very often goes to inspect the anicut inside the Forest Reserve and not to inspect reserves there ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Government are not aware.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) May I know from the member whether the Conservator of Forests has constructed any anicut in the reserve in the Nedumangad taluk ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Government are not aware.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know from Government whether they are aware that a correspondence went on at the time of the former Dewan, Mr. V. S. Subramonia Iyer, about the construction of an anicut by the present Conservator of Forests in the reserve without the permission of Government ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : I claim notice.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : May I know from the Government whether the tour diary of the Conservator for the year 1109 was received by the Government in due time ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : I believe so.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : May I invite the attention of the member to the remarks made by the Government in their G. O. on the Forest Administration Report for the year 1109 that the tour diary of the Conservator of Forests has not been submitted and that Government await his tour diary ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : May I know how it is possible to answer the question to part (*a*) like this in view of the G. O. referred to above ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Information has been collected afterwards.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : We are not able to hear.

PRESIDENT : The usual complaint about you, Mr. Thommen. Please deliver that answer once more.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Information about the tours of the Conservator has been collected but I have said that it is not possible to say the exact number of times he has visited a particular place.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : May I know from the Government whether they have got any information in regard to the tour work done by the Conservator for the year 1109 ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

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MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know from the Government whether it was from the tour diary submitted by the Conservator for the year 1109 that they have supplied this answer?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) It must be from that.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): In view of that answer, may I know what the Government meant when it was remarked by them that the Conservator did not submit his tour diary for the year 1109?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): That was said at the time when the Government order was passed. Subsequently we got the information.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know from the Government whether it is their position that they are now in possession of the tour diary?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*): May I know from Government whether any explanation was called for from the Conservator why he did not submit his tour diary in due time for the Government to pass their proceedings on the Administration Report?

MR T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) May I know when the information was called for, whether it was after the receipt of this interpellation?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I do not know when it was called for.

RAO SAHIB S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Nominated*): May I know from the Government whether they do not receive the tour diary of officers for each month separately?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): With reference to answer to part (*c*), may I know whether it was the subordinates of the Department that felled the trees or somebody from outside?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): I think the question means the same thing, whether it is the subordinates or somebody else.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): May I know whether any attempts have been made to convict those who are responsible for the felling of the trees?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*); I believe no case has been taken.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*): Has no case been reported? In the report submitted by the Conservator of Forests, has the Government been made aware of the fact that specific individuals have committed offence and, if so, whether any action has been taken against them?

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MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Certain cases were reported, but no prosecution was effected.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : May I know the reason for it ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : It was not considered worth while.

MR. PUTHUPALLI S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : May I know the damage sustained by the department on this account ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : The exact amount of the damage is not collected, but it is not very large.

MR. PUTHUPALLY S. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon II*) : If the damage has not been ascertained, may I know on what basis Government say that it is not very large ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : From the report of the Conservator.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : May I know from the member whether, when forest offences are committed, if compensation is taken from the parties, prosecution is not taken ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : There may be some cases like that.

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*) : When the Government member said there was no prosecution, did he mean that compensation charges were realised from the parties ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : I am not quite sure.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Rural*) : Is it that the member is not sure of what he says ?

PRESIDENT : It is for you to infer.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : With reference to answer to part (*d*), the question is, " How many trees were removed by the Conservator of Forests in his construction of an anicut inside the reserve forest ? " I wish to know whether he has constructed any anicut for his private purpose.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : There is no information about it.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Has he constructed any anicut in the reserve forest ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : There is no information.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : The answer is that no trees were removed. The question is how many trees were removed by the Conservator of Forests in his construction of an anicut inside the Reserve Forest. I wish to know whether any tree was used for the anicut.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : What is meant by the question is whether any tree was removed from the Reserve Forest.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Have the Government addressed the Conservator to ascertain whether any tree from the reserve was used for the construction of the anicut?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : Yes, the Conservator has stated that he has not used any trees.

MR. A. S DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : May I know whether it was ascertained from him whether any tree was used for the anicut?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Government asked him whether any tree was removed and he has answered that no tree was removed.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know why Government did not collect the information on the particular point whether any tree was used for the anicut?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : There was no question to that effect. The question was whether trees were removed?

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Removed for what purpose?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : It means that he did not remove it either for anicut or any other purpose.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know from the Government whether it was not out of the trees that were removed that the anicut was constructed.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : It is stated that he did not remove any trees.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : But may I know whether that will warrant the Government inferring that no anicut was constructed?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : The question was only about removal of trees.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : The question as it is, is how many trees were removed by the Conservator of Forests in the construction of an anicut inside the Reserved Forests. That is to say, in part (*b*) of the question there is specific mention of an anicut. What is the information that Government collected with regard to the anicut alleged to have been constructed?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*) : The answer is that no trees were removed by the Conservator of Forests.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Sir, that is not the answer to my question.

PRESIDENT . Well, I sympathise with you as well as the Government member. The only thing I was able to understand was that, when the Government member stated that no trees have been removed for the construction of the alleged anicut or whatever it was, Government did not push their enquiries further as to whether any anicut was built at all. That is what I understood from the Government member.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

MR. M. SIVATANU PILLAI (*Tovala*): May I know from the Government ——

PRESIDENT: Your turn is up.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): May I know from the member what he meant by saying that it was not thought worth while to launch prosecutions in regard to felling of trees? By whom was it thought not worth while?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): By the Conservator of Forests.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*): Was the matter brought to the notice of the Government?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Ambalapuzha I*) Did the Government concur in the view of the Conservator that it was not worth while to launch prosecutions.

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether the amount of damage involved is a criterion in forest cases?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Not always.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): May I know whether the Forest Regulation and Rules enable the officers of the Forest Department to compound offences?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Miss Rosemeyer, Chief Inspectress of Girls' Schools.

23. ✻ MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the Chief Inspectress is engaged even at office hours in religious discourses with the Roman Catholic Missionaries;

(*b*) whether the office and residential quarters of the Chief Inspectress are put up in the same building;

(*c*) whether she permits Christian ladies alone to visit her on business; and

(*d*) whether she shows preferential treatment to Christian applicants in the matter of appointments?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): (*a*) No.

(*b*) There are two blocks of buildings connected by a passage. The office is held in one block and the other block is used as residential quarters.

(*c*) and (*d*) No.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): With regard to answer to part (*a*), may I know from the Government whether Roman Catholic Missionaries frequently visit the Office of the Chief Inspectress of Schools?

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